

B1

d) 0 - 30 wt.-% of a water-soluble polymer, the weight amounts a) through d) being based on anhydrous polymer composition, and the sum of these components always being 100 wt. %, wherein the powdered crosslinked polymer composition is made by continuous polymerization process wherein a parameter of the continuous polymerization process is varied by increasing and decreasing the parameter in a recurring pattern, during the polymerization process.

---

B2

3. (Amended) The polymer composition of claim 2, wherein the oscillation is selected from the group consisting of harmonic or anharmonic.

---

13. (Amended) A process for the continuous production of powdered, crosslinked polymer compositions absorbing aqueous or serous fluids, as well as blood, comprising:

a) 55 - 99.9 wt.-% of at least one polymerized, ethylenically unsaturated, polymerizable monomer which contains acid groups neutralized to at least 25 mole-%;

b) 0 - 40 wt.-% of polymerized, unsaturated monomers copolymerizable with a);

B3

c) 0.01 - 5.0 wt.-% of one or more crosslinking agents;

d) 0 - 30 wt.-% of a water-soluble polymer,

the weight amounts a) through d) being based on anhydrous polymer composition, and the sum of these components always being 100 wt. %, wherein the powdered crosslinked polymer composition is made by continuous polymerization process wherein a parameter of the continuous polymerization process is varied by

B3

increasing and decreasing the parameter in a recurring pattern, during the polymerization process.

---

B4

15. (Amended) The process of claim 13, wherein the oscillation is selected from the group consisting of harmonic or anharmonic.

---

20. (Twice Amended) An absorbent material for water and aqueous liquids comprising a polymer composition of claim 1.

---

21. (Twice Amended) A material comprising an absorbent to absorb body fluids comprising a polymer composition of claim 1.

B5

22. (Twice Amended) A electroconductive or light conducting cable comprising a polymer composition of claim 1.

23. (Twice Amended) A foamed sheet material comprising polymer composition of claim 1.

24. (Twice Amended) A vehicle for fertilizers or other active ingredients released over a prolonged period of time comprising a polymer composition of claim 1.

---

#### Remarks

The Office Action mailed December 19, 2002 has been carefully considered.